A Study of Use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) Tools at Dental, Engineering and Management College Libraries of Moradabad.

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ABSTRACT

The Study aims to study the use of ICT tools use and its impact on the Dental, Engineering and Management College Libraries of Moradabad. The growing information communication technologies have been revolutionizing society by making information available to the people in a new way. Use of ICT is increasing day by day as it is time saving, more informative and less expensive.

Introduction

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) applications are rapidly changing all over the world. It has tremendous impact on every library operations, resources, services, staff and users. Library professionals are confronting challenging dynamic technological environment demanding the extensive and effective utilization of ICT in order to survive and meet the changing complex information needs of the user community. ICT has provided libraries with new opportunities to improve their resource & services. The tools of ICT are as follows:

1.1 Computers

The uses that computers are now commonly put to: writing letters, and reports, printing books, newspapers, and magazines, drawing pictures and diagrams, doing statistics, mathematics and handling financial records, controlling traffic lights, flying airplanes, making and playing music and video, sending messages anywhere in the world.

1.2 Internet

The Internet is the world’s largest computer network that enables computers of all kinds to share services and communicate directly with each other, as if they were part of one giant seamless global computing machine. It plays a significant role in education, health, political processes, agriculture, economy, businesses and newsgroups. With Internet connectivity, one can do business all over the world without physical contact with the buyer or the need for a business intermediary.

1.3 E-mail

Electronic mail (e-mail) is the exchange of text messages and computer files transmitted via communications networks such as the Internet. The e-mail system as the equivalent of postal mailing services, with the biggest difference being the time and cost involved. And not only written data, but all sorts of information in the form of video, audio, or photographs, can be sent via e-mail. E-mail is described as an increasing popular method of communication, especially in the workplace.

1.4 Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are defined as a telephone system that can move or be moved easily and quickly from place to place. Mobile phones were once the tool of rich and busy executives who could afford both the luxury. Mobile phones are now the ICT that is reshaping and revolutionizing the communications globally. Its impact on the economic activities of nations, businesses, and small entrepreneurs is phenomenal. The availability of this new technology has been reshaping the material basis of the society as well as bringing about a profound restructuring of economic, political, and cultural relations among society.

1.5 Fax machine

Ogbomo (2008) defines that fax systems permit the transaction of images (photos, printed images, maps, drawings) and their reproduction on paper at a remote receiver. Fax is not a new service; however, advances in digital imaging technology and microelectronics have...
caused a sharp drop in prices with a significant increase in capacities. "Long distance copying" might be an appropriate nickname for this telecommunication process. Any document, whether it is handwritten, contains pictures, diagrams, graphs, charts or typed text can be transmitted at a great speed for relatively low cost. The fax system is widely available; most organizations have at least one fax machine.

1.6 Scanner
An Image Scanner is an input device that translates paper documents into an electronic format that can be stored in a computer. The input documents may be typed text, pictures, graphics or even handwritten material. This input device has been found to be very useful in preserving paper documents in electronic form. An Image Scanner has a set of light emitting diodes encased in a small case that can be held in hand conveniently.

1.7 Printer
The monitors enable us to see or view the output, the printers enable into make a hard copy of it. The processed data in the form of tables, spreadsheets, diagrams, pie chart, schedules, reports, image & graphics etc. may be printed on a piece of paper using the printer. There are various type of printers like

a. Dot Matrix Printer
b. Daisy wheel Printer
c. Laser Printer
d. Ink Jet Printer

1.8 Bar code Reader
Bar code reader is a device used for reading bar coded data. It may be a hand –held scanner, or embedded in a stationary scanner. It scans a bar –code image & converts it into an alphanumerical value that is then fed to a computer connected to the Bar- code reader.

2. Objectives of the Study
a. To study the choice of ICT tools used in college libraries of Moradabad
b. To find and examine the patterns of use of ICT by the respondents in their professional activities;
c. To analyze respondents’ perception of the appropriateness of different ICT tools;
d. To investigate respondents’ evaluation of a spectrum of currently-available tools;
e. To offer suggestions for the effective management of emerging tools.

3. Hypothesis
a. Library professionals uses different ICT tools in their scholarly communication.

b. There is a difference among the respondents in the selection of tools.

4. Methodology
Detailed questionnaire having information on the use of ICT tools and its impact in the libraries were prepared. The questionnaire are distributed to the users for knowing the use and impact of ICT in library of Institute of Foreign Trade & Management (IFTM), College of Engineering and Technology (CET), Moradabad Institute of Technology (M.I.T) and Kothiwal Dental College and Research Centre (KDRC).

Use of ICT Tools

Table 1. Use of ICT tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICT Tool</th>
<th>No. of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printers</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scanner</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 and Figure 1 show that nearly all of the respondents use e-mail (97%), mobile phone (98%), and Internet (95%). The use of mobile phones is highly significant, because it is a fast and easy way to communicate without much infrastructure.

Table 2: Frequency of the use of ICT facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>99.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 times in a week</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>43.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once in a month</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor telecommunication infrastructure</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obsolete equipment</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High cost of equipment</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>65.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of basic education</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban-rural digital divide</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interconnectivity problem</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are several problems militating against the respondents’ use of ICT facilities. Power blackouts, the high cost of connectivity, and lack of ICTs skills ranked highest, while interconnectivity ranked second, and poor infrastructure, urban-rural digital divide, lack of basic education, obsolete equipment, and high cost of equipment were also mentioned.
5. Uses of ICT Tools
   (a) Research
   (b) Entertainment
   (c) Education
   (d) Communication

Most respondents use ICT to update their knowledge.

   (a) Trial and error method
   (b) Guidance from colleagues & friends
   (c) Training from college
   (d) Self instruction
   (e) External courses

Majority of the respondent learn the use of ICT tools by the guidance from colleague & friends.

7. Comparison of conventional Documents and ICT tools
   (a) Time saving
   (b) Time consuming
   (c) More informative
   (d) Less informative
   (e) More expensive
   (f) Less expensive
   (g) More useful
   (h) Less useful
   (i) More preferred
   (j) Less preferred

8. Influences on Academic Efficiency
   (a) Use of conventional documents has decreased
   (b) Dependency on the ICT tools has increased
   (c) Expedited the research process
   (d) Improved professional competence

9. Satisfaction with ICT Tools
   (a) Fully
   (b) Partially
   (c) Least satisfied
   (d) No comments
Conclusion

Now ICT tools can offer real opportunities to improve the quality of community life. It is also important to deepen our level of reflection on community dynamics and on the constraints encountered when introducing and using ICTs for development. A healthy information society is concerned with getting reliable and timely information to its members. Making people aware of the benefits derivable from the use of ICTs will help to make the society a healthy one.

References: